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AFRICAN REPOSITORY,

AND

COLONIAL JOURNAL.

AOT' AIT'

Published by order of the Managers of
THE AMERICAN COLONIZATION SOCIETY.

THE PROFITS OF THIS WORK ARE DEVOTED TO THE CAUSE OF THE SOCIETY.

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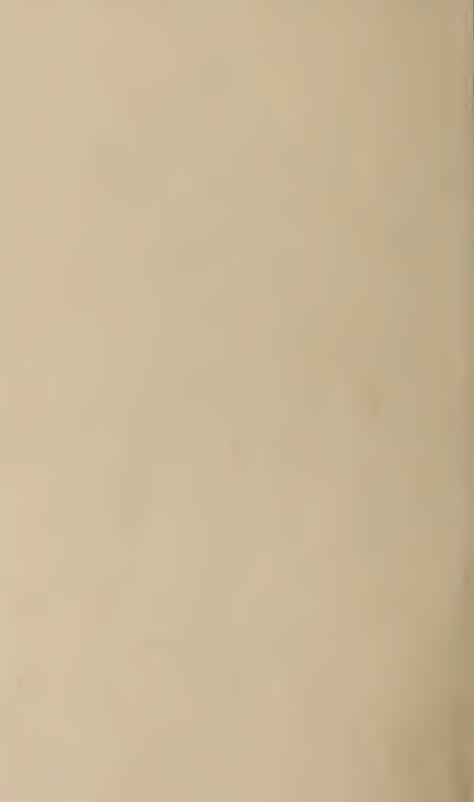
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JUNE, 1831.

No. 4.

An Address

Delivered at the State House in Vandalia, Illinois, on the subject of forming a State Colonization Society, Auxiliary to the American Colonization Society. By Cyrus Edwards, Esq.

THE efforts of Mr. Edwards to promote the interests of the Colonization Society, have been very meritorious and efficient; and his address is an able and impressive defence of the Society. Did our space permit, we should be happy to insert this address entire, but can at present select only some of the most interesting extracts.

"Fellow-Citizens: In obedience to an appointment which I have not felt myself at liberty to decline, it becomes my duty to submit to your consideration a view of the origin and progress of the American Colonizing scheme; and to invite your attention to the present actual condition, as well as the future probable prospects of the Liberian Colony established on the western coast of Africa by the untiring activity and the almost unaided charities of a few benevolent and enterprising individuals. In attempting the discharge of this duty, it is matter of unaffected regret that my ability is not commensurate with my devotion to a cause so vitally interesting to millions of benighted heathens scattered over the vast continent of Africa, so deeply involving the happiness of a wretched class of beings embosomed in our own country, and so unspeakably important to ourselves, our children, and our children's children. But this regret is not a little relieved by the animating assurance that the good work, however feebly supported, must and will receive the cordial sanction of this respectable audience: an assurance derived from the considerations, that in a cause recommended alike by interest, by duty, and humanity, an appeal has never yet been made in vain to Americans ever alive to the impulses of a generous philanthropy—that it has already drawn to its support many of the purest patriots, the ablest statesmen, and the most enlightened philanthropists that this or any other age or nation can boast. It has elicited the calm and sober investigations of a Jefferson, a Madison, a Monroc, a Marshall, a Washington and a Layfayette; revolutionary worthies, who wrote and spoke and fought for the achievement of your liberties. It has prompted the fervid and impressive eloquence of a Key, a Jones, a Harrison, a Harper, a Mercer and a Clay; the latter of whom assisted in the first organization of the Society, has watched its whole progress, is now ' labouring with indefatigable zeal for the accomplishment of its plans, and has declared with an almost inspired emphasis, that 'if he could only be instrumental in ridding of this foul blot that revered State that gave him birth. or that not less beloved State which adopted him as her son, he would not exchange the proud satisfaction which he should enjoy for the honor of all the triumphs ever decreed to the most successful conqueror." It has called forth to its service all the moral affections, the physical energies, and the intellectual resources of the lamented Ashmun, who, renouncing home, kindred and friends, with all the endearing relations of social and civilized life, has traversed the wide ocean, assumed the responsibilities of a colonial agency, encountered the heats of a tropical climate, endured multiplied privations, difficulties and dangers, and at last yielded his life a sacrifice to the glorious cause. But does this interesting cause depend alone for its support on the precarious bounty, or the unsustained efforts of individual benevolence? No, fellow-citizens-it has grown and is still growing under the cheering patronage of all the associated communities in our country. Several of our classical and theological seminaries have given unequivocal evidences of their interest in its success .-Many of our literary gazettes, religious magazines, and periodical publications have warmly espoused its interests. The different religious denominations-the Presbyterian General Assembly, the Methodist General Conference, the Baptist General Association, the General Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church, with many of their Synods, Presbyteries and subordinate churches have earnestly recommended it to the favourable consideration of the whole christian community. Twelve of the independent sovereignties of this nation have given to it a legislative sanction-in nineteen or twenty States have auxiliary societies been formedand in the archives of the Congress of the United States is deposited a report of approbation by a committee of that body. A cause, thus sustained by such a full chorus of approving voices from individuals, companies and states, assures me that it must and will command the favorable regard and the liberal patronage of this enlightened people, however humble may be the pretensions or however limited the influence of its present advocate.

"The scheme of colonizing the free people of color is not one of recent origin, or of new and untried speculation. It had its commencement in the times when the patriot sages of the revolution were directing the

destinies of this nation. As early as 1802, Mr. Jefferson, whose name has ever been associated with the cause of freedom and the equal rights of man, at the request of the Virginia Legislature communicated by Governor Monroe, another patriot soldier of the revolution, opened a correspondence with the Sierra Leone Company, and afterwards with the government of Portugal, with a view to the accomplishment of the important objects of our society. This negociation having failed of success, from the disturbed state of the world at that time, as well as from other causes which need not be enumerated, we find the same venerable patriot in the year 1811 giving the sanction of his great name to a proposition of the Society of Friends for a colonizing establishment on the coast of Africa. Afterwards, in the year 1816, the Legislature of Virginia, solemnly impressed with the momentous interest of the scheme, and deprecating the increasing dangers of delay, appealed with an almost unanimous voice to the General Government for its aid in procuring an asylum for the reception of its free colored population. Influenced by these examples, some fifteen or twenty of the best and wisest men of the nation assembled about thirteen years ago in a small apartment of a tavern in Washington City, to consider, and if possible, to devise a remedy for the growing evil, which threatened desolation to the fairest prospects of their beloved country .-Among this small, but chosen band of patriot citizens, were men high in the affections of the people-to the study of whose interests their whole lives had been devoted, and who could not therefore be suspected of designs hostile to any portion of our Union. They formed themselves into a society called 'The American Society for Colonizing in Africa the free people of color of the United States.' They adopted a written constitution, elected their officers, and entered upon their great work. But, no sooner had they commenced operations than they were denounced as wild enthusiasts or wicked incendiaries—their scheme proclaimed to be absurd and chimcrical, and utter ruin to all their hopes loudly and confidently predicted. The unthinking derided, the presumptuous prophesied, the timid became alarmed, and some even of its most ardent friends were for a time hushed into silence from a view of the appalling discouragements which surrounded them. But the great and good men of this society, undismayed by these formidable embarrassments and bitter prejudices, and confiding in the ultimate triumph of a scheme so eminently calculated to advance the interest, the honor and happiness of the nation, persevered with a prudent caution but unyielding firmness in their benevolent designs. 'Acting above disguise they courted investigation,' persuaded that a knowledge of their principles and objects would quickly silence the clamors of the uninformed, put to flight the nervous alarms of the timid, and at last unite all hands and all hearts in the generous enterprise. They calmly considered and mildy responded to the many arguments and objections conjured up by ignorance, misconception, or-wilful misrepresentation.

"To the slaveholder, who had charged upon them the wicked design of interfering with the rights of property under the specious pretext of removing a vicious and dangerous free population, they address themselves in a tone of conciliation and sympathy. We know your rights, say they, and we respect them-we know your difficulties, and we appreciate them. Being mostly slaveholders ourselves, having a common interest with you in this subject, an equal opportunity of understanding it, and the same motives to prudent action, what better guarantee can be afforded for the just discrimination and the safe operation of our measures? ground for apprehension that we, who are bound to you by the strongest ties of interest and of sympathy, should intrude upon the repose of the domestic circle or invade the peace and security of society? Have not the thirteen years' peaceful vet efficient operations of our society attested the moderation of our views and the safety of our plans? We have protested from the commencement and during our whole progress, and we do now protest that we have never entertained the purpose of intermeddling with the private property of individuals. We know that we have not the power, even if we had the inclination to do so. Your rights as guarantied by the constitution are held sacred in our eyes; and we should be among the foremost to resist, as a flagrant usurpation, any encroachment upon those rights. Our only object, as at all times avowed, is to provide for the removal to the coast of Africa, with their own consent, of such persons of color as are already free, and of such others as the humanity of individuals or the laws of the different states may hereafter liberate. Is there any thing, say they, in this proposition at war with your interest, your safety, your honor, or your happiness? Do we not all regard this mixed and intermediate population of free blacks, made up of slaves or their immediate descendants, as a mighty and a growing evil, exerting a dangerous and baneful influence on all around them? Incorporated into our country as freemen, yet separated from it by odious and degrading distinctions, they feel themselves condemned to a hopeless and debasing inferiority. They know that their very complexion will forever exclude them from the rank, the privileges, the honors, of freemen. No matter how great their industry, or how abundant their wealth-no matter what their attainments in literature, science or the arts-no matter how correct their deportment or what respect their characters may inspire, they can never, no, never be raised to a footing of equality, not even to a familiar intercourse with the surrounding society.

"Escaping from the unmerited censures of the slaveholder, the society are at once met by the keen reproaches of the uncompromising abolitionist, the blind advocate of general, immediate and indiscriminate emancipation, who denounces their scheme as an insidious contrivance to perpetuate the existence of slavery. And here, may we not pause to felicitate the society upon the wisdom of its plans in the view of objections

so diametrically opposite? Do we not perceive the sagacity, the harmonizing character of a scheme which rejects the hurtful extremes of either, whilst it adopts the liberal views of both? And what cause for congratulation that it has been thus assailed, at its very commencement, by the virulent denunciations of both extremes of public sentiment? For had it been at the outset warmly espoused by the one, it might have been irreconcilably opposed by the other. Only opposed, because it was not understood, it is now silently, yet rapidly gaining votaries from all parties and all portions in our Union. Verily, verily, the finger of that Being with whom are the issues of life, is in the work, and will conduct it to a prosperous result. The society, meeting the objections of the abolition enthusiast, in a like spirit of mildness and forbearance, assures him of their equal devotion to the pure principles of liberty and the powerful claims of humanity. We know, say they, and we deplore the evil of slavery as the deadliest curse to our common country. We see, and we lament its demoralizing effects upon the children of our affections, from the budding innocence of infancy, to the full maturity of manhood. But, we have not, we do not, and we will not interfere with this delicate, this important subject. There are rights to be respected, prejudices to be conciliated, fears to be quelled, and safety to be observed in all our operations. 'We enter no household to disturb its domestic tranquillity, we address ourselves to no slaves to weaken their obligations of obedience'-we interfere with no man's property. 'We suggest no compulsion of bond or free, master or slave.' We follow in the wake of public opinion. By its march, we are regulated; and to it our society offers itself as a simple handmaiden to assist in its benevolent purposes. And we protest, most solemnly protest, against the adoption of your views, as alike destructive of the ends of justice, of policy, and of humanity. No wild dream of the wildest enthusiast was ever more extravagant than that of turning loose upon society two millions of blacks, idle and therefore worthless, vicious and therefore dangerous, ignorant and therefore incapable of appreciating and enjoying the blessings of freedom. Could your wishes be realized, your gratulation would be quickly changed into mourning, your joy into grief, and your labour of love into visits of mercy to our jails and our penitentiaries, to the abodes of vice and the haunts of poverty...... Come, ye abolitionists, away with your wild enthusiasm, your misguided philanthropy; -on this middle ground, you may erect the altar of conciliation and love-on this altar you may spread the sacrifice of mutual distrust, mutual jealousy and mutual animosity, as a burnt offering to the cause of colonization, whose incense shall rise to heaven, spread over America, and reach to the utmost confines of Africa. On this ground, you may unite in sentiment and action-and from this altar, you may pluck the golden fruits of assured safety and of gratified humanity.

"But are we here met by the inquiry, what particular interest can the people of Illinois have in the encouragement of this project? I answer that, apart from the benevolent interest which each of you must feel in aiding to strike the fetters from the bodies of thousands and tens of thousands of slaves, and in giving a more perfect liberty to that class among us who are so cruelly mocked with the shadow without the substance of freedom; independently of that high and ennobling interest which must be excited at the prospect of planting on the shores of Africa a happy republic of freemen, through whose instrumentality the lights of science, civilization and religion may be extended to fifty millions of idolatrous pagans, we, the people of Illinois, have an immediate, a peculiar, and a pressing interest in its success.

"Again, are we not urged to a speedy, an active and efficient support of this cause from the very great influx of free colored persons with which we are threatened? An evil which all admit to be most unpropitious to the well being of a free community—an evil, the extent of which can only be appreciated by those who have experienced it in all its diversified forms. Are you aware that in Louisiana a law has been passed, commanding all free persons of color to leave the state who have removed to it since the year 1825! Are you apprized of the fact that several thousands have been driven from Ohio, and taken refuge in Canada; and that they in their turn are threatening them with expulsion from their territories? That other states are adopting similar expedients to free themselves from similar embarrasments? Can you close your eyes to the view of their wonderful increase in the slave-holding states from the emancipating spirit of the times, and to the fact that immediate removal is made by law the condition of emancipation? will you supinely wait to be overborne by an evil of such magnitude, and at last be forced to a cruel legislative proscription of this unfortunate race, when a door is thus benevolently opened for a happy riddance to us and to themselves? Other states are now actually laboring under the pressure, almost hopeless of a remedy-but we are only threatened with its approach. We have only to strive for the prevention of the mighty ruin which may fall upon us. Should not this, therefore quicken our zeal and animate our efforts in the good work of Colonization?

"And are we so selfish in our feelings, so contracted in our views, as not to be influenced by the consideration of the national character of the evil; national in its sanction, national in its progress, national in all its bearings and tendencies. And in contemplating its bearings and tendencies, will the enlightened, the patriotic citizen deny that the well being of the whole union is dependent upon that of all its parts? If one member of the great family of states languishes under the operation of a desolating scourge, will not the deadly infliction be severely felt by the whole united body? And whilst the diversities of soil, of climate and of situation happily constitute so many ligaments to bind us together in the strongest bonds of brotherhood,

what a sundering of ties is produced by collisions of feeling, clashings of sentiment and contrarieties of character! How ought we to estimate the importance of this consideration, when we hear of the continually recurring political strife in the Congress of the United States, and the question of slavery becoming the rallying word of the contending parties? -To be united, prosperous and happy, we must be one in scntiment, one in action, one in character. But further-Are not all the states equally interested in the furtherance of a plan for diminishing with perfect safety the alarming increase of our black population? What is our situation?-United America, almost the only portion of the globe where negro slavery is tolerated—the neighboring republics of the South testifying their abhorrence of it, by giving at one dash of the pen, freedom to all within their limits—the Canadas on the North frowning upon it, giving a home to the exile and a shelter to the fugitive—the most powerful nations of Europe turning an eye of reproach upon us-and at home, yes, at home, thirteen out of twenty-four states arrayed against it. Now, turn your eves to the total population of the West India Islands, estimated at more than 2,843,000, of whom 2,359,500 are negroes and mulattoes. Look to the probable revolutions in Caba, the key of the Mexican Gulf, which together with the neighboring island, Porto Rico, is computed to have 925,000 inhabitants, of whom 586,000 are free blacks, slaves, and a mixed race of white, black and Indian blood. When to all these, we add the fact that the United States contains within its bosom about two millions of blacks, have we not great reason to fear that we are "slumbering on the brink of a volcano where the explosion will be more appalling as it may be longer retarded." Most gladly would we close our eyes against this view-but far better is it to see and obviate danger, than carelessly to wait for its approach.

"But now methinks I hear you ask, is this scheme of expansive and expanding benevolence, so just, so safe, so politic, a practicable scheme?-Is not the continent of Africa a sandy desert, doomed to perpetual sterility? Is not its climate pestilential and destructive to human life? Will not the colonists be viewed with jealousy by the neighboring tribes, and if spared by the climate, be exterminated by the natives? Will not the resources of the nation be incompetent to effectuate the great objects of the society? And can the free people of color be induced to renounce their homes, their connexions and their comforts for a far distant and inhospitable land? These five distinct and important inquiries present in bold relief and in the strongest coloring, the only remaining grounds of opposition, and if satisfactorily answered, must triumphantly establish the purity, the wisdom and the utility of this noble design. Would that my strength and your leisure would permit the dedication of this entire day to an examination of all the appropriate facts and observations comprised in these and other journals and pamphlets. But as this is impracticable,

I feel happy in giving the assurance, that a diligent, attentive and discriminating perusal of all the information derived from the most authentic sources, has resulted in a strong personal conviction that some of these difficulties have no existence at all, and that others are both remediable and surmountable by the employment of means and exertions entirely within the compass of our capacity.

"It is true that in Africa there are extensive deserts. But an argument derived from this fact is not more absurd than would be an attempt to persuade us, who are daily feasting upon the comforts and luxuries of a genial soil and climate, that our continent is an uninhabitable waste. because it contains within its limits rocky mountains, dismal swamps, and sterile plains. All tourists and journalists, who have explored that mighty continent, picture to our view many barren spots to be sure, but also widely extended regions of the most exuberant fertility-an exuberance which affords such a rich profusion of spontaneous productions, as to take away from the ungoverned natives, the necessary excitements to exertion; but which, under a wise and efficient government, exercising its salutary restraints and its stimulating influences, would give a new spur to industry, and a new elevation to character. Who has not heard of the far-famed productiveness of Egypt? Who has not heard of the rich countries watered and fertilized by the Senegal, the Gambia and the Rio Grande? And who can resist the testimony of the colonists themselves in their appeal to their colored brethren of the United States? 'Away with all the false notions that are circulating about the barrenness of this country: they are the observations of such ignorant or designing men as would injure both it and you. A more fertile soil, and a more productive country, so far as it is cultivated, there is not, we believe, on the face of the earth. Its hills and its plains are covered with a verdurc which never fades; the productions of nature keep on in their growth through all the seasons of the year. Even the natives of the country, almost without farming tools, without skill, and with very little labor, make more grain and vegetables than they can consume, and often more than they can sell.'

"As to the alleged unhealthiness of its climate, we feel warranted in the assertion that it has been far less fatal to the colony, than was that of Massachusetts to the pilgrims, or that of Virginia to its first settlers. Bold, and daring, and desperate, were the efforts of our fathers to make a stand in this new world—but disaster and defeat embittered all their struggles. Thousands fell the victims of savage cruelty—thousands were swept away by the ravages of famine, the colds of winter or the heats of summer—thousands, buoyant with hope, spread their sails amid the blessings of parting friends, and were never heard of more. Five hundred emigrants, at one time landed at Jamestown in Virginia, and in

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less than five months, their numbers were reduced to sixty. And yet from these two feeble establishments at Plymouth and Jamestown, has sprung a population which, in spite of these discouragements, have built cities, founded governments and erected this nation into a great empire. No such instances of wide-spread mortality have ever occurred at Liberia. It is true that the exposure of northern constitutions to its tropical heats has been attended, in too many instances, with disease and death; but it is believed, not in a greater degree than would attend a removal frome Maine or Massachusetts, to Carolina or Georgia. Further comment on this point is surely unnecessary.

"But we are told that whom the climate may spare, the natives will exterminate. This apprehension is founded upon an entire ignorance of facts, and a gross misconception of the true character of this people. Although that character is marked by a proverbial treachery, yet this trait is seconded by no one feature of moral courage or fearless enterprise. Peaceful in their inclinations, and unwarlike in their habits, what they cannot effect by stratagem, they will rarely attempt by force. If we look to the history of ancient Greece, we will there learn that the introduction of a small Egyptian colony, bringing with them the arts, the laws and learning of their mother country, first gave impulse to that spirit of improvement which conducted this infant and barbarous state, to the highest rank among the nations of the earth. Greece in her turn sending forth her little colonies, communicated light and instruction to her more ignorant and savage neighbors the Romans. And from this latter kingdom, again were the blessings of civilization, by the same means, diffused through the other nations of Europe.

"And hand in hand with the progress of civilization will be the march of commerce. Established as we shall be in the undying affections of this grateful people, we may enjoy almost exclusively the rich fruits of an enlarged and enlarging trade in the important articles of gold dust, ivory, gums, hydes, dye stuffs, spices, coffee, cotton, rice, &c. with which this fertile country abounds. In return for these valuable commodities, we can furnish to them those articles of necessity as well as of luxury best adapted to their taste; and thus secure to ourselves a most lucrative foreign commerce, which may add to the wealth, power and stability of our union. Already does the harbor of Monrovia, the present capital of Liberia, present to the eye of the beholder, a most animating scene of commercial activity and enterprise. Turn your eyes to the harbor crowded with sails-behold the anchoring and launching, the lading and unlading of its numerous vessels, its warehouses stored with rich cargoes, the rapid wheeling to and fro, of its drays and carts-lend your ear to the busy hum of industry along its shores-mark the alert movements of the once sluggard slave, and then tell me what brighter evidence can be desired of the transforming influence of freedom, what richer reward for all our

labors and sacrifices in the cause of suffering humanity, or what greater incitements to perseverance in this godlike enterprise of doing good?

"Do I hear in this assembly the whispered ejaculation of the pious christian, that there is still wanting the means of dispelling the moral darkness of this people, of pouring into their benighted minds the light of christianity, and teaching them the benign principles of our holy religion? What more efficient instrument, let me ask, can be employed for extending to Africa's remotest bounds the sublime doctrines, and the humanizing precepts of the Bible, than this little Colony coming to them in the character of brothers descended from the same common stock? Send your white missionaries among them; and though clothed with all the sanctity and inspired with all the eloquence of a Paul, their appeals will be powerless, their labors fruitless. With their very complexion will be associated the recollection of the unchristian deeds of the white man in exciting peaceful tribes to bloody and destructive wars, devoting whole villages to the flames, chasing parents from their desolated dwellings, tearing children from the arms of parents, and dooming them to all the horrors of intorminable slavery. Look then, ye ministers of the gospel, and ye humble followers of the Saviour of the world, to this germ of a great nation, as the instrument chosen of Heaven for the spiritual redemption of no less than fifty millions of your fellow beings. Send it forth. seconded by your prayers, sustained by your patronage, with that volume which proclaims 'liberty to the captive and the opening of the prison to them that are bound.'

"And when at last civilization, commerce and religion shall have exerted their ameliorating influences, what a sure death blow will be given to the horrible traffic in slaves—a traffic which, under circumstances of the most complicated suffering, and the most hellish barbarity, annually consigns at least sixty thousand souls to the unmitigated rigors of servitude—a traffic so enormous as to put in requisition the combined fleets of the civilized world for its extinction.

"But at the very moment when our hopes are thus enlivened, and our resolution is thus invigorated by the contemplation of these rich, and varied, and inestimable blessings, our ears are assailed by the soul-chilling prediction of certain failure from the supposed unwillingness of our free blacks to emigrate to Liberia. How many noble enterprises have been frustrated by such dismal forebodings of faint-hearted objectors? Let this objection lie forever entomed by facts, living cheering facts; facts which proclaim the certain, though perhaps distinct coming of that day when the pathway of the slave shall be retraced by thousands and tens of thousands of joyous freemen, sweeping like a resistless torrent across the broad Atlantic.

"But lastly, the expense of colonization is urged by many of our citizens as an insuperable barrier to the attainment of our wishes. Yet this,

like many other seemingly mountain difficulties, sinks to a mole hill when we contemplate the magnitude of the evil, the plan of operations for its removal, with the means of its aecomplishment, and the inealculable benefits resulting therefrom. What though the expense be great, was there ever yet any important enterprise accomplished without cost? And when the objects which the Colonization Society have in view, are regarded in all their varied features of relief, what expenditure can be too great within the scope of our resources? Look at the evils to be removed, and the actual benefits to be enjoyed, and then count its worth if you ean in dollars and eents. Now, let it be remembered that the Society have never entertained the visionary project of removing in mass the colored population of the United States. It looks to the attainment of a great end by rational and practicable means. It well knows that precipitation would be certain defeat, because of the unprepared condition of the Colony, and the consequent danger of the too rapidly crowding emigrants into it. In the first year, not more perhaps than one thousand might be removed. In the second, not more than two thousand. But in the third, there might be five thousand-in the fourth, ten thousand, in the fifth, twenty thousand, and so on just in the ratio of eapacity for their reception in the Colony. On this plan the expense, however great the aggregate amount might be, would be comparatively trifling at any one time. And that expense would be continually regulated by the quantum of good it would oeeasion; enlarging with its advancement; diminishing with its declension. . Thus if the appropriation increases, it indicates an increase of emigrants. If the number of emigrants diminishes, just so much of expense is saved. The expenditure can therefore never exceed the benefit. As the cause advances, the society looks first to the removal of the annual increase, which may be more effectually kept down at the least possible expense, by the selection of a larger proportion of such as are between the ages of twenty and thirty, and of females than of males. They next look to the general mass. Such being the plan of the Society, a plan so replete with prudent calculation and eautious foreeast, let us see if we ean arrive at a reasonable estimate of its eost. The annual increase of free persons of color is ascertained to be six thousand. This at twenty dollars per head, the present cost of transportation, would amount to one hundred and twenty thousand dollars. The annual increase of the whole, both bond and free, is fifty two thousand, from which substracting those who never attain to the age of maturity, and those over fifty, as not adding to the increase, the number neeessary for removal is estimated at thirty thousand, which at the above rate of transportation gives the sum of six hundred thousand dollars. Now what is this pittanee drawn from the treasuries of twenty-four state and of the General Government?

'Thus, fellow citizens, have we endeavored to buffet opposition from

the North and from the South. And thus have we labored to overthrow the arguments and cavils of objectors. And is not the review most encouraging? The prejudices of the North are dying away, the fears of the South are nearly quelled. The God of Heaven has conducted our society to a luxuriant soil and a genial climate. He has disposed the hearts of the native tribes to a friendly reception of our infant Colony. He has at the time of our utmost need, and in a most remarkable manner, furnished an instrument for extending and perpetuating these friendly relations. Free persons of color are manifesting an eagerness to depart. Hundreds and thousands of masters are ready to add to their numbers. The wisdom and philanthropy of the society have been successfully exerted in devising the plan and unfolding the resources for its accomplishment. What more have they done? They have already purchased a territory of great extent and exceeding fertility. On this territory they have planted a Colony of two thousand freemen. They have laid off their farms, and directed their renewed energies to the peaceful pursuits of agriculture. They have pointed them to all the sources of a rich and productive commerce. They have built towns and given directions to their labours in the mechanic arts. They have erected churches and established schools to "teach the young idea how to shoot," and to train the immortal mind for heaven. They have organized a government based upon republican principles, and founded a free press to vindicate and perpetuate those principles. They have planted on their heights impregnable fortresses, over which wave the banners of freedom, and from which are pointed the cannons in defiance to all their enemies. And now, they ask of you a pittance to help this colony, to help yourselves, to help Africa, to help America. Can you refuse it? Can you look with a heartless apathy upon all this labour of love, and fold your arms with listless unconcern, whilst such an animating, such a soul cheering progress is making in the sacred cause of liberty, humanity and religion? Shall all these preliminary efforts, hitherto crowned with such signal success, be arrested, and the fond hopes of the patriot, the devout prayers of the christian, the awakened sensibilities of the master, and the delighted visious of his slave, be blighted, forever blighted? Must we lose all the hard-earned advantages of having at last conciliated a once prejudiced community at home, and a still more prejudiced world abroad-of having gained the free consent of our colored population, and excited the emancipating spirit of their owners? Shall a purchased territory, so extensive, so salubrious, so fertile, be again yielded up to savage beasts of prey. Must its hitherto flourishing towns, its fair villages, its peaceful cottages, and rich plantations, be no longer tenanted by a new-born race of happy freemen? Shall two thousand souls, now charmed with a Pisgah view of the promised blessings of learning, freedom, and religion, be at once exiled from their schools, their temples of Justice, and their churches dedicated to

the ever living God? Shall all the moral lights, which now beam upo Afric's gloomy shores, be blown out, and all the sounds of christian worship, and all the songs of christian praise, be forever hushed? And must that dreary coast be again heard to reverberate the deafening yell of despair wrung from the agonized heart of the pirate's victim? O no! Justice, Mercy, Religion, Heaven forbid! May the spirit of this assembly forbid it-and may the new-born spirit of civil liberty throughout the world forbid it. O yes, it must, it will forbid it. Its onward march cannot be stayed. The eagle of liberty is on the wing, bearing in her talons, freedom's banner unfurled and waving over every land. Now, she perches on the lofty Andes, and proclaims emancipation to all Southern America. Now, she flies to Europe, mingles in the battle strife at Scio, and at Missolonghi, and cheers, and animates, and sustains her Grecian votaries in their glorious struggle. Now, she hails the dawning light of religious freedom in subjugated Ireland. Anon, she bursts the fetters of Turkish despotism. And now, she claps her glad wings over regenerated France, and speeds her rapid flight to Spain, to Portugal, to Italy and the Netherlands. And now, even now, methinks I see her hovering over desolated Africa, and hear her pouring forth in sweetest accents, the gladning proclamation of freedom to Ethiopia, and freedom to her exiled sons."

Communication.

LETTERS OF WM. B. HODGSON, ESC. ON THE BERBER LANGUAGE.

[We are under great obligations to a gentleman of very distinguished learning and ability for the following notice of these letters.]

We have been favoured with a copy of the first number of the fourth volume (New Series) of the Transactions of the American Philosophical Society, now in the press at Philadelphia. But a few months have elapsed since the third volume was published, the contents of which have already been noticed with approbation in several of the scientific and literary journals of Europe. We see, with pleasure, the zeal and activity with which that learned body are exerting themselves for the promotion of useful knowledge, in which we must acknowledge that their example is not sufficiently followed by the other institutions of the same kind existing in the United States. This has obtained for them an enviable distinction abroad, where that Society is more exten-

sively known, than any other Philosophical association that the United States can boast of, although there are several among them, whose labours are entitled to great praise, and would receive more, if they were not so long and so often intermitted.

The number that we speak of, contains 48 quarto pages, and consists entirely of a Grammatical Sketch and Specimens of the Berber language; preceded by four Letters, on Berber Etymologies, addressed to the President of the Society, by William B. Hodgson, Esq. We consider this document as well worthy of notice in the African Repository, as it contains much curious information, not only on the languages, but on the manners and customs of a people who may be numbered among the Aboriginal inhabitants of Africa.

The author, Mr. Hodgson, is a native of Virginia. He was sent to Algiers in the year 1826, by the Administration, for the purpose of acquiring a knowledge of the languages of the inhabitants of the northern coast of Africa. There he devoted himself to the study of the Arabic, Turkish, and other oriental languages, and by way of relaxation from his severer occupations, at the solicitation of the President of the American Philosophical Society, he took pains to inquire into the structure and origin of the idiom of the Berbers, who inhabit the chain of Mount Atlas, from the coast of Morocco to Egypt. assisted in those researches by his friend, John Shaler, our late Consul General in the States of Barbary, and by a Taleb, or man of letters, a native Berber, attached to the service of the Consulate, who conveyed his information to him through the vulgar or Moorish Arabic, which Mr. Hodgson was soon able to understand.

It had been discovered some twenty or thirty years ago, that the Berber nation, as they are called, extended from East to West, through the whole chain of Mount Atlas, and spoke the same language more or less intermixed with Arabic forms and locutions. The learned, however, differed as to the origin of that language; some believed it to be an aboriginal idiom, while others thought they discovered in it the remains of the ancient Punic. Among the latter, was the celebrated English Philologist, Marsden, who is reported to have been overjoyed when he made the discovery. The result of Mr. Hodgson's inquiries

clearly proves that he was mistaken, and that the Berber was spoken in North Africa before the foundation of Carthage. It is proved to be spoken in parts far distant from the northern coast of Africa, and where Carthaginian Colonies cannot be perceived to have been established. It is spoken even into the desert of Sahara, and in the Oasis, where the power of the Carthaginian Government did not extend.

In order to prove the antiquity of the Berber language and its African origin, Mr. Hodgson has adopted a most ingenious method, which appears so natural and so obvious, that, like Columbus' egg, every body will think he would have discovered it, yet it occurred to none of the Philologists who reasoned a priori on the origin of that language. The method of our author was simply this; he sought in the Berber idiom for the etymology of the proper names of towns, rivers and mountains, which abound in the Greek and Roman Historians and Geographers, many of which have preserved their ancient denominations to this day, and he was fortunate enough to find that many of them are significant even in the language as it is spoken at this day, and as it was probably spoken long before the successive conquests of the country by the Carthaginians, Romans and Arabs; that is to say, in words of real Berber derivation, thus Thala. the name of a town so called in the days of Sallust, and in which that author says there were many fountains, is a Berber word which signifies a covered fountain, in contradiction to an open spring, and there is at this day a village in the country of the Kabyles, which, for the same reason, bears the same name-Thena or Thenæ, mentioned by Pliny, Strabo, Ptolemy and others, signifies dates, a fruit well known to abound in that country; Thelga, the methelga of Pliny, signifies straw; the Tisidium of Sallust, means the cowpens, from Thisitha, cows; ampsaga of Pliny, the woody river; Tunes or Tunis, the stranger's asylum; seteef, the ancient sitipha colonia, means a white earth abounding in that soil; and the augela of Herodotus, an oasis in the desert of Barca, still retains the same name, which in Berber signifies riches, a name analogous to the modern names Richmond, Richland, Richelieu, and well adapted to a rich and fruitful country, situated in the middle of a dreary wilderness. Even the name of atlas Mr. Hodgson plausibly derives from

the Berber Adrar or Adhraer, a mountain, the only name by which the Berbers at present designate that chain of mountains. He presumes that the Greeks have softened the pronunciation of the word to please their delicate ears.

Mr. Hodgson has not been so successful as to the names of persons; it is presumable that they have been too much disfigured by the ancient writers, besides, that the proper names of men and women are not always significant. The only one to which he gives a probable Berber derivation, is that of Jugurtha, from Jugurth, which, in that language, signifies a crow or raven. This, he says, is analogous to our Indian names, and even among the Romans, the proper names Corvus, Corvinus, were not unusual.

In subsequent letters, Mr. Hodgson takes a bolder flight, by giving Berber derivations to the names of Egyptian gods and goddesses. He rejects the generally received etymology of the name of Jupiter Ammon, from a Greek word which signifies sand, because, for sooth, that god had its celebrated temple in an oasis, situated in the middle of a sandy desert. He derives it. on the contrary, from the Egyptian word amen, which means water, and supports this derivation by some very ingenious arguments, observing with reason, that the Greek language could not be known in Egypt, at the time when the worship of this ancient divinity was first introduced, and he proves by various authorities, that this worship had not an Egyptian but a Libyan origin, and that it began in Africa, where the Greek language cannot be supposed at that time to have penetrated. The name of Themis, the goddess of justice, he says, means fire in the Berber idiom, and he thinks it a very appropriate name, fire being the emblem of purity. Thus the Romans have derived their words purus, puritas, from the Greek IIvo, which has the same signification with the Berber word Themis. Osiris he derives from Osir, an aged venerable man. Isis, in Berber, means daughters.

We have not space to expatiate further on the numerous etymologies of the same kind, which Mr. Hodgson has presented to the literary world. He has struck out an entirely new path, in which, we hope, he will be followed. The French being now in possession of Algiers, their Savans will have an opportunity of pushing farther these interesting researches, and we may expect from them important and philological discoveries, which may throw considerable light on the history of ancient times, and particularly of Egypt, which is said to have been the cradle of Arts and Sciences, and the birthplace of civilization.

This is the more probable, that Mr. Hodgson has already discovered some very remarkable analogies and affinities (particularly in the structure of the two languages) between the Berber The definite articles are the same in and the ancient Coptic. both idioms, and in both they are prefixed to the substantive. The letter T in both, designates the feminine gender. And he has found several of the pronouns to be exactly or nearly the same. From thence he thinks it very probable, that the ancient Coptic idiom was of Libyan origin, and that language as well as civilization, flowed down the Nile, in which opinion he is supported by Herodotus, Strabo and Diodorus Siculus. He recommends the study of the various dialects of Nubia, Dongola, Sennaar, Darfur and Abyssinia, and of what remains of the ancient Coptic, which with the Berber, he thinks, will greatly aid future Champollions in their researches into the language, hieroglyphics, antiquities and history of Egypt and the neighbouring countries. These languages, he believes, will at any rate facilitate the intelligence of each other.

To these interesting letters Mr. Hodgson has added a Grammatical Sketch, with some interesting specimens of the Berber language, which are not easily susceptible of analogies and to which we must refer the reader. We shall only observe, that some of the grammatical forms of that idiom bear a strong analogy to those of our American Indians, particularly in the formation of compound verbs. Thus we find, Ootasthatsakkara, do not give it to him; Oorasnathtsakghara, I will not give it to them. This is exactly like the Indian verb mentioned by Heckewalder, which expresses in one word, I do not choose to eat with him.

We have no doubt that this interesting work of Mr. Hodgson will draw the attention of the literati of Europe, and that it will receive a just meed of praise on both sides of the Atlantic.

Agency of Cyrus Edwards, Esq.

We have received the following interesting letter from this gentleman, whose zeal and energy in the cause of our Institution merit our warmest gratitude.

Enwardsville, March 23, 1831.

DEAR SIR:- Shortly after the receipt of your letter enclosing a commission as agent for the American Colonization Society, I procured a meeting of a portion of the citizens of this county, explained to them the nature and design of the plan of Colonization, and succeeded in the organization of an Auxiliary Society, called the Madison county (Illinois) Colonization Society. Although the meeting was small, consisting only of about twenty persons, yet the interest manifested, and the liberal contributions furnished on this occasion, afforded a very pleasing presage of the future success of the scheme. I afterwards attended, pursuant to previous notice at Lebanon, in St. Clair county, where a Society was formed, called the Lebanon (Illinois) Colonization Society. After the lapse of a few weeks, taking an extended circuit, with the two-fold purpose of engaging in professional duties, and contributing my humble aid in the advancement of the good cause, I visited successively Belleville, in St. Clair; Waterloo, in Monroe; Kaskaskia, in Randolph; Carlisle, in Clinton; Carrolton, in Greene; Jacksonville, in Morgan; and Springfield, in Sangamon County. At Bellville, my expectation of forming a Society, was mainly defeated, (as I was informed) by the unkind imputations of a prominent individual of the village. The failure was however, attended by the cheering evidence of a lively interest in the cause, on the part of an attentive and highly approving audience. At Waterloo, the attention of the people was called to the subject, and the plan of operations fully developed, without any attempt at the organization of a Society, but with unequivocal indications of a favorable state of public sentiment. In the other counties the following Societies were organized, viz:-the Randolph county (Illinois) Colonization Society; the Clinton county (Illinois) Colonization Society; the Green county (Illinois) Colonization Society; the Morgan county (Illinois) Colonization Society; and the Sangamon county (Illinois) Colonization Society. At Vandalia a State Society was formed, the report of whose proceedings, as detailed in the "Illinois Intelligencer," is herewith forwarded. The whole sum received, and accounted for in a statement transmitted to James C. Dunn, Georgetown, D. C. amounts to \$328,50. There being as yet no returns from several of the Societies, the precise amount subscribed cannot be certainly ascertained-but it is believed that, (allowing for the entire failure of some, which I regret to say is too probable,) considerably upwards of one hundred dollars will be realized. In all my efforts, I have had no positive opposition except in the single instance above alluded to, but much of chilling indifference to encounter. The sparseness of our population, as well as their limited resources in a country so new, forbade the expectation of any very considerable pecuniary contributions. But from the general tone of feeling evinced throughout the State, I feel warranted in giving the assurance that Illinois will co-operate as cordially with the American Colonization Society, in the advancement of its views, as any of her sister States similarly situated.

Having accepted the Agency tendered me, with an ardent desire to contribute as far as opportunity would permit, to the success of this most philanthropic enterprise, but without any wish of remuneration for such slender services; neither my circumstances nor my leisure will enable me to offer in future any other than the occasional aid which the convenience of time and place may afford. Such aid will be promptly and zealously rendered, whenever and wherever practicable in a cause so deeply affecting the interests of both Africa and America.

I am very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
Cravs Edwards.

P. S. The Rev. John Dew, of the Methodist Church, and the Rev. Thomas Lippincott, of the Presbyterian Church, are entitled to your paper, having taken up collections on or about the 4th July, and paid over the same to the Madison county Society. And I will add, that their zeal and efficiency in the cause, demand the warmest acknowledgments of the Society.

C. E.

Female Education Society in Liberia.

In our number for March, we inserted a letter addressed by the Secretary of the Ladies' Colonization Society of Richmond and Manchester, to the Colonists of Liberia, expressing a deep interest in their welfare, and proposing, in case a suitable house could be prepared, to employ a Teacher for a Female School in the Colony. The following letter was received in reply.

LIBERIA, Feb. 19, 1831.

To the Ludies of the Richmond and Manchester Colonization Society.

We received your kind letter, and must say that we feel equally impressed with the great importance of Education, and have suffered much for want of a female *Teacher*—one that we might depend on. We take it a great blessing that you have conferred upon us by preparing a "Lady" who is qualified for this great task.

We will prepare a house for her to teach in; also, we will do all that

we can to make her comfortable and happy here. We hope the Ladies will lose no time in sending her out—we intend to prepare for her.

With much esteem,

We remain yours,

C. M. WARING,

ELIJAH JOHNSON,

In behalf of the Colony.

Intelligence.

The following interesting account of the annual meeting of the Young Men's Missionary Society of New York City, is taken from the Christian Advocate of the 29th of April.

GREAT MISSIONARY MEETING.—The Young Men's Missionary Society of New York, auxiliary to the Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church, celebrated its anniversary in the John-street church on Friday evening last. At an early hour the large church was thronged with a multitude of the friends of missions, and the friends of the African colony to Liheria, to whose interests this society is now directing its efficient labours.

The meeting was opened with singing and a fervent address to the throne of grace.

Dr. David M. Reese, President of the society, took the chair; and after announcing the order of the meeting, the annual report was read by Gabriel P. Disosway, Esq. the corresponding secretary, which we hope to publish in our next number.

A motion to accept and print the report was then made by the Rev. Mr. Nicholls, of the Philadelphia Conference, and accompanied by an address replete with interest and feeling.

This motion was seconded by the Rev. J. N. Maffit, of the N. E. Conference, and accompanied by a brief and characteristic appeal in behalf of Africa.

After the latter gentleman had taken his seat, Charles Reason, a descendant of the African race, about fifteen years of age, rose and addressed the audience as follows.

"Friends of Africa's bleeding race!—I appear before you to-night in behalf of the suffering natives of the country of my forefathers. I am, as you perceive, a descendant of Africa.—Yes! that blood flows in my veins, which has been bought and sold by white men for centuries that are past, and doomed to galling slavery. But I shall not upbraid you with these wrongs, nor reprobate the memory of those who have gone to their retribution. The time, the occasion, the circumstances under which I speak, all forbid it. Other thoughts possess this heart.

This is the time of mercy-Jesus reigns, and by that light he sheds up-

on the world, a spirit of sympathy is awakened towards bleeding Africa. What else besides that Spirit which breathes good will to man, could have enlisted the labours of the American Colonization Society in behalf of the African race. I hear a voice!—it is the voice of mercy!—it sounds along the shores of the Atlantic;—it echoes back to the mountains of America. It tells me that my poor degraded race may yet be free. Here I would weep, but tears do not become me, unless tears of joy.

But I hear an answer to that voice; it is whispered by this young men's missionary society. Its softened accents have rolled over my ears with sacred delight. It tells me that my fathers and mothers shall have the gospel. Hark! I hear the tread of the missionary's feet on the shores of Liberia. I listen, and I hear him crying in all the accents of redeeming mercy, Ho! ye thirsty sons and daughters of hapless Africa, come to the waters. I look again, and I see my poor countrymen fleeing to the Saviour, and my little heart leaps within me while I thus see Æthiopia stretching forth her hands unto God.

But what more do I see and hear? I see the mission school, and mission teachers, supported by this society, gathering the half starved children of Africa around them, and they are learning with eager delight the word of the Lord. Shall I weep then for what is past? Shall I weep over my ancestors chained in a wretched, filthy, and starving slave ship? Nay, that time, I trust, is past to return no more. May the sweet horizon never be darkened by the sails of another of these floating hells.

I will now thank God and take courage. I see around me those whose hearts are throbbing with love for poor Africa Yes, her sun-burnt shores shall soon echo with the voice of redeeming love. Oh! that I were worthy to go as one of the messengers of peace, I would fly on the wings of love, and proclaim in the ears of my countrymen, that Jesus died for them.—But one more worthy shall go. May I not go too, and sit by his side, and be a partaker of his joy?

Mr. President: I envy you the high honour to which you are called, in guiding the destinies of a society so holy in its objects, so rich in liberality, so dignified in its attitude, and proposing such ends to its labours. May my heavenly Father bless you."

This address was delivered in a strain of fervency which brought tears from many eyes, and gave evidence of talent far above mediocrity. The young speaker is a pupil of the African free school taught by Charles C. Andrews, under the patronage of the Manumission Society of New York.

He was followed by an address from the Rev. Mr. Merwin, in his usual style of pathetic and spirit-stirring eloquence, which melted the hearts of the audience, when the collection was taken up in behalf of the contemplated mission to Liberia.

The president of the society then solicited life subscriptions, and five

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were promptly given in of ten dollars each, besides a considerable number of annual subscribers.

The apostolic benediction was then pronounced by Rev. S. Martindale. We understand the amount collected and subscribed at this meeting fell but little short of two hundred dollars, thus affording solid encourage ment to our young brethren to persevere in the highly important work in which they have engaged.

The following extracts are from the valuable Report of this Society. The Young Men's Missionary Society in former years held a conspicuous station among the public associations of the Methodist E. Church.-It reached the zenith of its usefulness in the time of our beloved Summerfield, who was its presiding officer at the period of his death. Laborious, brilliant, and triumphant was his career; and this society, in common with the whole Christian Church, mourned his loss, and severely felt the bereavement. Called unanimously to preside over its destinies, he gave tolt the influence of his opinions and the weight of his name; and from the time when these were withdrawn by an unerring hand, the operations of the society appear to have been gradually paralyzed, until at last it had only a nominal existence. The memory of the just shall live, and Summerfield's devotion to the missionary cause was remembered—though dead, vet he spoke. Some were to be found anxious once more to join in this sacred work, and the Young Men's Missionary Society was re-organized in the month of November last.

There was a loud, and, in the opinion of the newly elected board, an imperative call for missionary help from the African colony at Liberia.—
To send this aid, they resolved, with the Divine blessing, to unite their zeal, their liberality, and their prayers. Meetings were accordingly called in each of our congregations for the purpose of promoting this object.—Our brethren in the ministry, to a man, became deeply interested in the undertaking, and afforded us every aid in their power. Very valuable services were also rendered by R. S. Finley, Esq. agent of the American Col. Society, who was fortunately on a visit to this city during the period of these meetings. His impressive and interesting addresses were listened to with deep and general attention. The Rev. Dr. Fisk also received the thanks of the board for the powerful appeal in his discourse preached in the Duane-street church to benefit the society.

These efforts were more than successful. Nearly three hundred annual and ten life subscribers were obtained, besides other donations. And it is with great pleasure that we record the liberal spirit and holy emulation which have been manifested to advance the interests of this great enterprise of Christian benevolence. All the stationed preachers in this city, with scarcely an exception, were made life members of this society by the liberality of the members more especially under their charge. An increasing interest daily manifested itself in favour of our object and our

plans. From the Juvenile Missionary Society of Brooklyn the board received a donation of \$25, and there appears to exist among the members of that association a glowing and ardent desire to co-operate in missionary labours with their fathers and elder brethren of the Church of Christ. A donation of \$100 has also been paid into the treasury of the parent society by the Female Missionary Society of our Church in this city, with a request that it be expended in the contemplated mission to Liberia. To them Africa, like the red men of our forests, has not stretched forth her hands in vain; and from the shades of domestic privacy we rejoice in their exertions to "hush the sighing of the prisoner, and save the souls appointed unto death."

At the last general Conference it was deemed expedient to establish a mission at the colony of Liberia; and since the organization of this society measures have been taken to obtain, as soon as possible, suitable aid for this wide field of Christian labours. Our exertions are to benefit Africa through the American colony founded upon her shores-Africa! once the pride of antiquity, the cradle of the arts and sciences, has been visited for three hundred years with every act of oppression, and scourged by cruelties unparalleled in the annals of the world. By means of the infernal slave trade, her coasts have been desolated, her happiness blasted, and her civilization prevented, or converted into barbarism. The king of Dahomey literally walks to his throne in human blood. The skulls and bones of his enemies, slain in battle, form the pavement of his palace; and the walls and roof are stuck over with these horrid trophies. In another tribe human sacrifices are constantly practised to a most horrible extent-The king of Comassie sacrificed on the grave of his mother no less than three thousand victims, two thousand of whom were prisoners; and at the death of a late sovereign, the sacrifice continued weekly for three months, consisting each time of two hundred slaves. This bloody custom appears to rise from an absurd belief here entertained that the rank of the deceased in a future world is decided by the train he carries along with him to the abodes of the dead.

The colony established in Liberia must have a powerful influence in favour of the gospel among the Pagan tribes. Much has been already accomplished by the labours of our brethren from the Wesleyan Missionary Society at Sierra Leone and the Cape of Good Hope. And from our colony light and peace are to pervade a Pagan continent. Come, then, young brethren, let us enter upon this wide field of holy labour with renewed zeal and devotion. Africa, long injured, long degraded Africa, may be regenerated and saved. There are those to be found who are willing to labour or to fall for her salvation; and some (hallowed be their memories!) have already stamped their devotion to her cause with the holy seal of martyrdom. In these labours of love we are not called thus to suffer, but Africa has a heavy claim against us for injuries long continu-

ed and severe, and it is our solemn duty to bear to her suffering sons and daughters the water of life and the bread of Heaven.

In behalf of the board,

GABRIEL P. DISOSWAY, Corresponding Secretary.

New York, April 22, 1831.

At a late meeting of the Philadelphia Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, the following Resolution was adopted—

Resolved, That this Conference, highly approving of the plaus and purposes of the American Colonization Society, does hereby recommend that collections shall be taken up throughout the churches within our bounds so far as is practicable, on the 4th of July next, in aid of the funds of the above society.

G. G. COOKMAN, Secretary.

The Auxiliary Colonization Society of Georgetown, D. C. held its annual meeting on the 25th of December last. The following extracts from its Report, will show with what energy and zeal it has contributed to aid the Parent Society. The example of this Society is most honourable to itself, and worthy of universal imitation.

"The Board of Mauagers of this Society are much gratified that they have it in their power to state, that the receipts into the Treasury during the past year, have been greater than during any preceding year, since the formation of this Society. The receipts during the year that has terminated, amount to the sum of one hundred and thirty-two dollars, exceeding the receipts of the preceding year by the sum of fifty-ty-two dollars.

"This fact of itself, furnishes the most conclusive proof of the increasing disposition on the part of the citizens of Georgetowu, to foster and promote the cause of African Colonization. Besides this Society, there are two other Societies in this town, viz: the Young Men's Colonization Society, and the Female Colonization Society, both of whom are valuable auxiliaries, and contribute in a very respectable manner to the funds of the Parent Society.

"Let it be recollected, that of the sums collected by these Societies, the greater part, if not all, consists of the subscriptions of individuals, of one dollar each, and sometimes of a smaller sum; and that, in addition to the sums of money collected by these Societies, there is a collection made once a year, in each Church in this town, for the benefit of the Parent Society—making in the aggregate a very respectable sum—thereby shewing that a very large proportion of the people of this town, not merely by their opinions and wishes, but by the voluntary contributions of their substance, do evince their deep interest in the successful accomplishment of this great scheme of Christian benevolence.

"A resolution was adopted by the Board of Managers at one of the monthly meetings of the Board, during the past year, to subscribe one hundred dollars a year for ten successive years, in aid of the funds of the Parent Society, upon the plan proposed by Mr. Gerrit Smith, of New York, and which plan has been so generally approved by the friends of the Colonization Society. This Society has the honour of being the first Auxiliary Society to subscribe upon that plan. The example was soon followed by the Female Colonization Society of Georgetown. It was supposed by the Managers of this Society, that it was important that that subscription

should be filled at as early a period as possible, as it would thereby render available to the Parent Society many subscriptions which were now withheld until the contemplated number of subscribers should be obtained. It was also believed that the resolution to subscribe a fixed sum of money, so deliberately formed and communicated to the Parent Board, would impose upon each member of this Society, and particularly upon its Managers, additional motives to make increased efforts on their part, to fulfil the obligation thus contracted. In this the Board have not been disappointed-the new members who joined the Society during the past year, were induced to do so at the solicitation of some of the Managers, who made exertions for that purpose, in consequence of this resolution. The first payment of the proposed subscription has been made to the Parent Society, and uo doubt is now entertained by the Managers, that more than a sufficient sum will every year be collected from the members of this Society, to meet each instalment of the above subscription, when the same shall become due. It is hoped that the course which has been adopted by the Managers on this occasion, will be approved of by the Society, and earnestly and steadily persevered in. Should the example thus set by this Society, be imitated by the other Auxiliary Societies throughout the Union, it is believed that important benefits to the Parent Society will result from it, both in the increase of its means, and in the certainty of their attainment.

"The Board of Managers have for some time been derirous of getting some respectable man of color, of good moral character, and of industrious habits, a resident of this town, to consent to emigrate to Liberia. As yet the Board have not been able to get any such person to go there.

"The Parent Society has every day been acquiring for itself more and more of the public confidence, and gaining to its cause, friends in every quarter of this Union. Its march has been onward, and its course steady and progressive; it will continue to be so, until it shall number among its friends all good men, whether they live in the North or in the South, in the slave-holding or in the free States .-But this Society depends not, for its success, upon agency alone; it is the cause of truth, of justice, of humanity, and of religion; and it has, therefore, Heaven on its side. Who could be made to believe it, if history did not record the fact, that the few friends of African Colonization, who, thirteen years ago, first assembled to form themselves into a Society, were all convened within the walls of a small room, in a building in the adjoining city? From that small beginning, amidst doubts and sneers, and hatred, and opposition, and distrust, and faintheartedness, it has grown up from a grain of mustard-seed, to be the lofty and spreading tree, whose roots strike deep into the bowels of the earth, and whose branches reach up to the Heavens. The past has been full of doubt, the future is full of hope. We should esteem it a privilege that we are permitted to contribute our mite to the furtherance of this work. Let us redouble our diligence, and never relax for one moment in our efforts, until this cause, which now depends, for its support, upon the charity of individuals, shall be sustained and encouraged by the wealth and power of this great nation."

ALEXANDRIA COLONIZATION SOCIETY.—The Fifth Annual Meeting of the Alexandria Colonization Society was held at St. Paul's Church, on Thursday evening, 14th April, 1831. The Rev. Mr. Cornelius, one of the Vice-Presidents took the Chair, and the Rev. E. Harrison presented the Report of the Board of Managers.

The following Resolutions were adopted.

On motion by Rev. Mr. Walton,

"Resolved, That the continued zeal and patronage of our fellow-citizens and the several congregations who have taken up collections on our behalf, descrive the thanks of this Society."

On motion by Mr. Woart,

"Resolved, That we consider education vitally important to the well being of Liberia, and that it be recommended to the Parent Society to exert its influence to promote education in the Colony, particularly among the females."

On motion of Rev. Mr. Cornelius,

"Resolved, That the history of the Colony for the year just gone by, gives us every thing to hope and nothing to fear; that it has been planned in wisdom, continued with a philanthropic spirit, and we believe will eventuate in one of the greatest blessings that has ever fallen to a nation to patronise; and therefore are we bound to pledge our utmost support to its interests."

On motion by Rev. E. Harrison,

"Resolved, That the Board of Managers be recommended to continue their exertions to extend the sphere of their operations as widely as possible, by diffusing information of the objects of the Society, and inviting the co-operation of the neighboring counties."

The Society then proceeded to the election of Officers for the ensuing year, whereupon the following were elected:

JOHN ROBERTS, Esq. President, Rev. S. Cornelius, 1st Vice-President Rev. E. Harrison, 2d do. Norman R. Fitzhugh, Secretary. Mr. Wm. Gregory, Treasurer.

Managers.

Mr. Jas. Douglas,
Samuel H. Janney,
Hugh C. Smith,
George Johnson,
Mr.

Mr. Thos. Sandford,
James Entwisle,
Capt. A. D. Harmon,
Mr. Robert Jamieson.

"Resolved, That the Report, Proceedings, and Names of Officers, be published in the Phenix Gazette." S. Cornellus, President.

N. R. FITZHUGH, Secretary.

From the highly interesting Report of the Board, we give the following extract. After alluding to the influence already exerted by the Colony on the coast of Africa, the Managers say—

"And it is to this fact in part, that we are to attribute the increasing interest, which the great cause is every day enlisting on its behalf: an interest which may be gathered from the double amount of the means which has been put into the hands of the Parent Institution during the past year. Almost every breeze, brings with it the cheering information of new accessions of influence, and the multiplication of large and effective auxiliaries. The whole land seems to be waking up to the subject, in its entire length and breadth; while those significant movements, which are now going on in the cities of New York, Philadelphia, and Baltimore, are indicative of a

result, to the transactions of the present year, scarcely transcended by all the previous operations of the Society from its commencement. Its board indeed as might have been expected, feeling their hands greatly strengthened, and their hearts encouraged, are beginning to act with more fearless confidence; and have resolved, that during the present year, at least one vessel shall be sent out with accessions to the Colony every two months.

"Nor can any reasonable doubt be entertained, but that the number of those willing to emigrate, will always keep pace with the increasing ability of the Society to transport them. Opposition may indeed be made by some, as has been the case already, and no lack of influence expended to pervert and prejudice the minds of others. Yet multitudes will go, and rejoice too in the opportunity of going. The prospect is too inviting-the field of promise too large, and too rich to be resisted; and the information communicated, by those who return, and those who write back to their relatives and friends, will, it is believed have the effect of ultimately inducing a desire in many, to remove even though it be at their own expense. In that landthe land of their fathers, they will find a peaceful home. There, in every important and significant sense of that term, they will become men. The rights of selfgovernment being enjoyed without clogs and without control, their minds will at once expand-their slumbering energies awake, their characters assume a new form-their prospects of the future brighten, and their hearts become sensible to the influence of emotions, corresponding to what might be supposed from an almost entire new state of being. Such effects as these, are in part realized already. To many of the colony, the influence of their new relations, seems to have imparted, not only a new complexion to their characters but a new spring to their existence. Unfettered by institutions, other than of their own choice, and cheered by a perspective, sufficiently glowing to satisfy the wishes of a rational intelligence, they move forward in the scale of moral agency and intellectual eminence, with a steadiness and a rapidity, which the most presuming had not ever dared to anticipate .-And when facts of a character so interesting and so important, are more extensively diffused, amid the ranks of the free colored population of this land, (and they eannot always be kept concealed) there is a strong probability, to say the least of it, not only that opposition will die among them, but that there will be greater difficulty in keeping them back, than is now experienced in inducing them to remove."

NEW YORK STATE COLONIZATION SOCIETY.—At the second anniversary meeting of the New York State Colonization Society, held at the Assembly Chamber, in the Capitol, on the 14th of April, 1831—the Hon. Chief Justice Savage in the chair,

The meeting was opened with prayer by the Rev. Dr. Wilson.

Harmanus Bleecker, Esq. addressed the meeting in relation to the general objects and progress of the Society.

Gerrit Smith, Esq. offered the following resolution, which was adopted: Resolved, That the thanks of this Society and of the friends of the great cause in which it is engaged, are eminently due to the religious societies and clergy of this state, for the collections made on the 4th of July last; and that we confidently rely on their continued patronage.

The resolution was seconded by M. C. Patterson, Esq. of New York, who supported the same by an eloquent and able address.

Mr. Butler offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the Board of Managers issue an address, carnestly recommending the renewal of collections in aid of the Parent Society, on the Sabbath preceding, or subsequent to the 4th of July next, and also the formation of an Auxiliary Society in every religious congregation in this State.

The officers of the Society were then re-elected for the ensuing year, viz:

JOHN SAVAGE, President. Vice Presidents.

1st district—James Milnor.
2d district—N. P. Tallmadge.
3d district—Eliphalet Nott.
4th district—Luther Bradish.

5th district—Gerrit Smith.
6th district—Samuel Nelson.
7th district—N. W. Howell.
8th district—David E. Evans.

Managers—Benj. F. Butler, Harmanus Bleecker, Charles R. Webster, Jabez D. Hammond, John Willard.

RICHARD V. DE WITT, Secretary. | RICHARD YATES, Treasurer.

AUGUSTA COLONIZATION SOCIETY.—We observe by the Spectator that the sixth annual meeting of the Augusta Colonization Society was held in Staunton, Va. on Saturday, the 25d nlt. At this meeting the following preamble and resolution were adopted:

Whereas it has pleased Divine Providence, by sudden death, to remove Daniel Sheffey, Esq. late a Manager of the Augusta Colonization Society:

Resolved, That this Society, whilst it bows with due submission to this expression of the Divine will, feels deeply and impressively, the loss it has sustained by this event;—an event that has deprived this Institution of one of its warmest and earliest friends, and of a most efficient officer.

The following gentlemen were elected officers for the year ensuing, to wit:--

REV. CONRAD SFEECE, D. D. President REV. JOSEPH SMITH, 1st Vice-President. MAJ. WILLIAM BELL, 2d do.

WILLIAM CLARKE, Secretary. | JOSEPH COWAN, Treasurer.

Managers.

Hon. Archibald Stewart, Col. Joseph Brown, Maj. George Eskridge, Charles A. Stuart, Esq. John H. Peyton, Esq. Samuel Clarke, Esq. James A. M'Cue, Esq. John M'Cue, Esq. Mr. David Gilkeson, Jun. William Kinney, Jr. Esq. David W. Patterson, Esq. Nicholas C. Kinney, Esq.—

The subjoined extract is from the annual report.

The agency of an Auxiliary Colonization Society, like ours, situated so far from the sea-coast of our country, can scarcely ever be extended beyond one single article; namely, that of collecting funds, and transmitting them to the Parent Institution at Washington. A balance of \$12 40\frac{1}{2}

was reported last year as remaining in the hands of the Treasurer. Since that time he has received \$146 27, making a total of 188 674; of which \$100 have been forwarded in aid of the great object; \$35 213 have been employed in sending certain free blacks from Staunton to Richmond. with a view to their emigration to the Colony; and \$1 983 for postage. The balance at present is \$51 47. While we regret that the wealthy county of Augusta contributes so little, we console ourselves with the reflection that every dollar bestowed is valuable in the promotion of a cause so justly dear to patriotism and humanity.

[From the New York Observer.]

At the instance and request of the Rev. Mr. Gurley, Secretary of the American Colonization Society, a meeting of the clergy of the city was held at the rooms of the Tract House, Nassau-street, on Friday, the 20th of May, 1831, at half past 12 o'clock, P. M. Rev. Dr. Milnor was called to the chair, and Dr. Cox appointed secretary. The following resolutions, after some statements from the Secretary of the A. C. S. and due consideration of the same, were passed unanimously.

1. Whereas, in the opinion of this meeting, the American Colonization Society is a humane and benevolent Institution, designed and adapted to promote the best interests of our country, of the free people of color, and of the African race—there-

Resolved, That this meeting consider the plan of taking up collections for the American Colonization Society, annually, on the Fourth of July, or on the Sabbath next preceding or succeeding that day, as peculiarly judicious and appropriate; that they will make such collections in their respective churches or congregations, and that they earnestly recommend this measure to the consideration of the elergy and people of all denominations throughout the United States.

2. Resolved, That the proceedings of this meeting be published in the Journals - of this city. My your Chairman.

of this city. JAMES MILNOR, Chairman.

SAMUEL II. Cox, Secretary.

The following very interesting items of intelligence are from the Western Luminary of the 6th ult. We think it probable that many of the reflecting and pious in Maryland and Virginia may think the plan of a Society to promote gradual emancipation worthy of their consideration.

LEXINGTON, APRIL 1st, 1831.

To the Editor of the Luminary:

Dear Sir:-In a recent number of the Western Luminary, we met with a contemplated project, in the consummation of which we feel deeply interested. Of the association proposed to be established, to take into consideration the momentous subject of emancipation, we wish to become members, and hereby authorize you to consider us as such.

Yours respectfully,

JAS. G. McKINNEY, Lexington. GEO. W. ANDERSON, Fayette. JAMES H. ALLEN.

MR. SETLEMAN:-When I first saw in your useful paper, the proposal

of getting up a Society, having for its object the gradual emancipation of our poor neglected and oppressed slaves, my heart rejoiced, and prayed God that he would raise up many friends to that good cause. Owing to my peculiar situation and from motives of prudence, I have hitherto withheld my name. My relations having been recently changed, I now cheerfully add my name to your list. May the God who is the defence of the oppressed, add his blessing to this effort. JAMES BLYTHE.

THE PROPOSAL .- Several citizens, slave holders, under a full conviction that there are insurmountable obstacles to the general emancipation of the present generation of slaves, but equally convinced of the necessity and practicability of emancipating their future offspring, are desirous that a society be formed for the purpose of investigating and impressing these truths on the public mind, as well by example as by precept: by placing themselves immediately, by voluntary arrangement, under a well regulated system for gradual emancipation; such a system as they would recommend to their fellow-citizens for adoption as the law of the land. In this view it is proposed to all slave holders of every religion, opinion or country, who are willing to abolish slavery by the gradual emancipation of the coming generation, to form themselves into societies having these great and glorious objects in view. Persons inclined to make the experiment will forward their names to the Publisher of the Luminary, Lexington. And so soon as the names of fifty slave holders are obtained, a meeting will be notified for the purpose of forming an institution and organizing the Society. (Nearly the whole number of subscribers requested have sent in their names.)

Expedition for Liberia.

A vessel is expected to leave New York in the course of a few days, to touch at Norfolk to receive emigrants, and proceed thence to Liberia. Applications for a passage should be made without delay, to W. C. Mulligan, Esq. New York; W. B. Davidson, Esq. of Philadelphia; J. H. B. Latrobe, Esq. of Baltimore; B. Brand, Esq. Richmond; John M'Phail, Esq. Norfolk; or to the Secretary of the Parent Institution, or of any Auxiliary Society.

Latest from Liberia.

By the return of the United States' Frigate Java, very gratifying intelligence has been received from the Colony. We have letters both from the Colonial Agent, Dr. Mechlin, and the Colonial Physician, Dr. Todsen, representing the health and prospects of the settlement as highly encouraging, and the general state of things in the Colony as prosperons and improving. Doctor Todsen states that out of a large number of patients for whom he had been called to prescribe, only

one had died, and this death occurred in consequence of a "stay of six months among the natives, exposed to the deadly nocturnal exhalations." Dr. Mechlin speaks of a visit to the St. Paul's, and of having discovered, opposite to Millsburg, an eligible site for a saw-mill, surrounded by valuable timber, and expresses his determination to have the mill erected, and put in operation without delay.

To the Memory of Ashmun.

Who is that man with fair and thoughtful brow,
An eye and mien that speak him great and good;
Standing on yon dark shore, deep dy'd with blood,
Shed wantonly by murder; and where grow
All crimes most odious to the eye of God,
Like wisdom, bright and pure, 'mid savage men,
Darker in mind than aspect? Unto them
A God he seems; and from beyond the flood
Whose ceaseless waves but chains and death have brought,
He comes in friendship; love in every thought;
His words are truth; and high above, unfurled,
With hand of power, he freedom's banner waves,
A sign of glory to the land of slaves;
His name an honour, wonder to the world.

"At length the old man stopped, and said, he was now to see me for the last time; the tears were in his eyes, and the power of utterance seemed to have forsaken him for a while holding my hand still fast he said, White man, think of Falaba, for Falaba will always think of you, &c."—Major Laing's Journal.

White man; we here must part;
Your face is turned away;
The thought is heavy at my heart:
The sun is dark to-day.

See Falaba in tears!

My wives and children see!

They love you much; and weep—who once
At sight of you would flee.

The men then laughed, but now
All heads in grief are bow'd;
The thought, white man, that you must go,
Comes o'er me like a cloud.

Go, white man; go in peace; One mighty chief, you say, Made, rules the world; He will not cease To guide you on your way.

White man! these presents take—
This ivory and this gold;
Freely I give for friendship's sake,
For love unbought, unsold.

White man! you go to view
What black men ne'er will see,
The mighty water, deep and blue,
And boundless—called the sea.

And if there be a land

Far o'er that water wide;
'Tis there your wife and children stand,

And call you to their side.

Haste, white man; dry their tears;
But, sweet as home may be—
As I of thee through distant years,
O! white man, think of me.

Contributions

To the American Colonization Society, from 1st May to 30th May, 1831.

Rev. John Wesley Childs, of Brunswick co. Va. as follows:	
John R. Pultney, of Lunenburg, Va \$10	
John Simmons, Muhlenburg, 10	
Aspin Grove congregation, Prince Edward, 3 41	
Rev. Rowland G. Bass, Methodist preacher, 6 59 -	 30
Benjamin Brand, Treasurer Colonization Society of Vir-	
ginia, of which the following sums were received, viz:	125
from Ladies' Colonization Society of Louisa, \$35 67	
from Powliatan Auxiliary Colonization Soc. 49	
from Highbridge cong. Rockbridge county, 6 18	
Fredericksburg and Falmouth, Va. Female Auxiliary	
Colonization Society, per Benjamin M. Miller, Treas.	200
Rockbridge, Va. Female Col. Society per Mrs. E. M.	
Preston, Secretary, \$2 for subscription to Repository,	52
Sereno Wright, Granville, Ohio, his annual subscription,	10
Lieut, C. L. E. Minor, of the U. S. Army, to constitute	
Mrs. Mary E. Blackford, Fred'ksburg, a life member,	30
Collections by Rev. H. B. Bascom, in Mississippi,	700
	\$1147





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